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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

OCA 87-2458

16 JUN 1987

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ted:

This is in response to your letter of 3 June 1987 inquiring about the Central Intelligence Agency's knowledge of the fate of Soviet scientist Vladimir Valentinovich Aleksandrov, who disappeared in Spain in March 1985 while attending an international conference.

This Agency has no information about what may have happened to Dr. Aleksandrov. We have asked other U.S. Government agencies who have replied that they have no information on Dr. Aleksandrov's whereabouts. We have also made numerous inquiries abroad without learning anything of Dr. Aleksandrov's situation.

The Soviets have made numerous queries to the U.S. Government about Dr. Aleksandrov through a variety of channels. In each instance, they have been told that the U.S. Government does not know his whereabouts.

I know that Dr. Aleksandrov's disappearance is a matter of great concern to his family and friends. I am sorry we could not be more helpful in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

William H. Webster
Director of Central Intelligence

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OCA/Senate, [redacted] (10 Jun 87)

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EDWARD M. KENNEDY
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 3, 1987

The Honorable
William H. Webster
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Langley, Virginia

Dear Bill:

I am writing with a personal request. I hope that you will be able to help me out.

In November 1983, I sponsored a forum in the Senate on the issue of nuclear winter and invited a group of distinguished American and Soviet scientists to participate. One of the Soviet scientists who attended was Dr. Vladimir Alexandrov.

On April 1985, Dr. Alexandrov disappeared while attending an international conference in Spain, leaving his mother, wife and daughter in the Soviet Union. His family has written to me asking for my assistance in obtaining information about Dr. Alexandrov. Their request has been followed-up by appeals to me from the USSR Academy of Sciences and personal requests from the Soviet Embassy. In each case, the inquiry is based on humanitarian considerations, i.e., the family simply wants to know if Dr. Alexandrov is alive.

I do not know if you or any of your people can help me out on this, but, given the many humanitarian appeals that I have made to Soviet authorities for the unification of families, permission to emigrate, etc., I would like to be able to give the Alexandrov family a response.

The purpose of my letter is to ask whether our intelligence community has any information about Dr. Alexandrov's status and, if so, whether I can relay some of that information to Dr. Alexandrov's family.

DCI
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Thanks very much for your help in this matter.

Sincerely yours,


Edward M. Kennedy

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